

Holland picked for F.A.

STEWART Atkins and Steve Long have been picked in the F.A. squad to meet Combined Services at Aldershot tomorrow (Wednesday).

But the surprise choice for this match is the Amersham Town mid-field player Dave Holland, who was only a substitute in the Magpies victory over Beckenham on Saturday.

Holland, who has played for Uxbridge in the Athenian League, left Amersham a few weeks ago after a row but has since returned. His manager Richard Jerome was thrilled with the selection. "This puts Amersham on the football map," he said.

The selection of Wycombe forward Atkins and Long is no surprise as they are joint leading scorers with 17 goals each. The squad of 16 is comprised mainly of Isthmian League players such as Richard Teale of Slough and Dave Alexander of Woking. The team is managed by the former England amateur boss Charlie Hughes.

It's certainly a busy time for Atkins and Long, because on Friday sees Wycombe start a hectic period during which they play their last nine games in 22 days.

Blues programme is: Friday: v Tilbury (h) in BIL, Saturday: v Leatherhead (a) BIL, Easter Monday: v Hungerford (B & B final at Marlow, Sat April 21 v Enfield (h) BIL, Tues April 24 v Woking (a) BIL, Thurs April 26 v Tooting (a) BIL, Sat April 28 v Barking (h) BIL, Tues May 1 v Tilbury (a) BIL, Sat May 5 v Sutton (h) BIL.

Although Blues are out of the title race, they could still have a decisive influence on the outcome. The two main contenders Enfield and Barking both have to visit Loakes Park and which ever side wins there must have a great chance of the title.

Evans rouses Blues from their slumber

IT was the worst possible afternoon for watching a football match. The weather was cold and dull, there was rain in the air and the game on the field matched the conditions.

Wycombe and promotion strugglers Leytonstone were fumbling their way through a dismal game and with more than an hour gone, there was every reason to believe we were in for a no-score bore draw.

But then Dylan Evans appeared on the scene.

Normally the arrival of this particular Wycombe substitute would bring the odd sarcastic muttering from the back of the stand and ironic cheers from the terraces.

This time, however, there was a loud cheer of support as the enigmatic Evans emerged from the dug-out as though the 500 crowd — Blues lowest of the season — hoped he would bring some entertainment and colour to the proceedings.

The effect on the game was remarkable. Evans' energetic actions on the right of the field, seemed to inspire his colleagues into action for the first time — and it was no coincidence that Wycombe took the lead within two minutes and add-

By MICHAEL KNOX Wycombe 2, Leytonstone 0

ed another before the end to emerge with a comfortable victory.

Valiant

Indeed, Evans started the move that led to Blues breaking the deadlock in the 69th minute. His through pass found Steve Long who shot for goal.

This effort was blocked but the ball fell to Stewart Atkins who forced it over the line despite a valiant attempt by goalkeeper Dave Danson to save. The ball eventually trickled over the line.

Not even a slight knee injury could halt the ebullient Evans as he slotted into his new position on the right side of mid-field. The striker could make the position his own for the rest of the season. His speed was a tremendous asset and his distribution was immaculate.

For instance, he set up another chance for Atkins, with a well-weighted through ball. Atkins had time to control and turn, but shot well over. Shortly afterwards he missed another good chance when firing wide from an excellent position.

But Wanderers put the result beyond doubt in the 87th minute, when Terry

Scott found space on the right. He sent the ball skimming across the face of the goal and both Mick Holifield and Atkins were there ready to add the final touch.

In fact it was Holifield who scored from close range to make up for the disappointment of striking the bar with an excellent shot in the pre-Evans period.

Struggling

Before Evans appeared there was little to cheer, apart from the announcement of the £1,000 lottery winner during the half-time break. It was as though Wycombe expected to win in a canter against a side struggling to avoid relegation.

Stones fought hard and caused Blues some anxious moments. The coloured Paul Powell, a constant threat, forced John Maskell to tip a shot for a corner, while Reg Bishop headed over the target from close in when unmarked.

The incidents were the exception rather than the rule. For the most part Wycombe controlled the game, if somewhat uneasily, but their

best chances seemed to come from defensive mistakes.

Atkins fired just wide after intercepting a poor back pass by Keith Hayzeldene, while only a desperate goalline clearance by the same player denied Scott who had seized on another weak pass back to the goalkeeper.

The second half started with a dazzling piece of play by Powell who shot just over after a good move with Reeves, and then Holifield proceeded to hit the bar at the other end.

But the main action did not start until the appearance of Evans. But one thing he was not responsible for, was the booking of Hayzeldene for a high tackle on Long.

Had Long realised how high that tackle was going to be, he would have come on to the field wearing a piece of equipment more usually associated with batsmen at cricket — and I don't mean a helmet!

It certainly would have lessened the pain.

WYCOMBE: J. Maskell; P. Birdseye, R. Davies, K. Mead, L. Reed (sub: D. Evans 67 mins), S. Hardwick, S. Atkins, M. Holifield, S. Long, H. Kennedy, T. Scott.

LEYTONSTONE: D. Danson; D. Jacques, K. Hayzeldene, J. Lye, M. McCayna, L. Cornwell, J. Smith, B. Reeves, R. Bishop, P. Powell, G. Parker. Sub: C. Bernet (not used).

Referee: G. Gordon (Raynes Park).

Attendance: 530.

Half-time: 0-0. **Scorers:** Wycombe- Atkins (69 mins), Holifield (87).

BERGER ISTHMIAN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barking	33	20	8	5	69	45	68
Slough	36	19	9	8	55	35	66
Dulwich	35	18	11	6	61	31	65
Dagenham	34	20	5	9	68	51	65
Enfield	30	18	6	6	56	29	60
Wycombe	34	17	7	10	51	34	58
Croydon	33	16	8	9	48	33	56
Woking	34	14	11	9	65	49	53
Hendon	36	13	12	11	42	40	51
Sutton	36	14	8	14	53	44	50
Leatherhead	34	14	7	13	47	36	49
Tooting	36	12	12	12	45	48	48
Hitchin	37	12	10	15	56	61	46
Boreham Wd	37	12	9	16	46	60	45
Tilbury	36	11	10	15	54	68	43
Oxford C.	37	12	7	18	46	70	43
Walthamstow	34	12	5	17	49	60	41
Hayes	35	7	15	13	36	48	36
Carshalton	33	8	11	14	38	55	35
Staines	35	6	14	15	37	53	32
Leytonstone	37	5	7	26	30	69	22
Kingstonian	38	3	12	23	29	63	21

